

Town of North Hampton New Hampshire
North Hampton Dog Park Committee
Notice of Public Meeting
6:30 PM Thursday, March 12, 2020
Mary B. Herbert Conference Room; 233 Atlantic Avenue

Final

Call to order

Pat McLean called to order the meeting of the Dog Park Committee at 6:32 pm

Attendees: Pat Mclean, Casey Dupuis, Alexa Haley, John Dover

Not Present: Meredith Vallee, Amanda Jonovski, Ronni Martin, Philip Thayer, Jalisa Bush, Paige Libbey, Michael Trotta, Anne Nettleton

Approval of minutes from 1.16.2020

Minutes were reviewed. Currently noted there is no town administrator, but it should be noted there is an interim town administrator.

Motion to approve the minutes; made by Pat. Seconded by Casey

The committee unanimously agreed to approve.

AGENDA

Process of Pursuing to Purchase Land

Pat spoke to the interim town administrator and will meet with the Select Board on the 23rd to discuss land acquisition. We need to clarify our role and responsibility with the select board. We didn't make the cut off for the town warrant for the land proposal. We need to be clear about how we communicate. The charge said we would assist to build a dog park and the signage until we knew more about finances. We would make the commitment to build the dog park, but we don't have clarity on finances. We need clarification on our responsibility on fundraising. A commitment has been made to pay for signage and fencing. We would find the land, and build as much as we can afford, but then the park would be owned by the town and be responsible for the maintenance.

If we find a piece of land, such as the Lovering Road lot (set at \$195,000 for 2 acres) the selectmen have to decide if it is the right piece of land and determine what needs to be done for it. We would then present it to the board at a non-public meeting for their review. If they accept it the board begins the negotiation with the landowner. If the board agreed they would review it in November put it on the ballot in March from the selectmen. What they would likely do is wait for a warrant. Pat said we need to know our responsibilities and proceed. Once we understand responsibilities, we need a mechanism to communicate. We are unlikely to get donated land, what will likely happen is availability for a piece of land like Lovering or the rail trail. We are in a position to write grants and fundraise as appropriate, be resourceful with fencing

to minimize expense, etc.

Concerns Surrounding Maintenance of Dog Park

There is a concern about dog waste. We would like to make sure we have a plan in place to manage and control waste, which will be separate from rules. We should focus on waste stations and placement of plenty of trash cans. We will make sure there is a sign with dog waste, provide waste stations and bags. Gravel will help, potentially volunteers can be coordinated but not a commitment.

1. Number of trashcans and positioning
2. Signage
3. Volunteer events several times a year potentially (boy scout involvement)
4. Ground type will assist with containing waste (i.e. Not grass)

Land Update

Lovering Road parcel and the rail trail are still available. Pat will pitch to selectman. Land donations are not anticipated. We mentioned we received inquiries, but all were land offers for sale. We want to check that Lovering road was on the list for the fliers in the mail, and if it wasn't on the list let's double check why it may have been missed and maybe explore other lots that may not have initially been on that list.

North Hampton Library "Harnessing History" State Dog Lecture (Thursday 4/23 6pm)

Pat went to the library and talked to Susan and there was a misunderstanding about supplying a dog for the event. Ann talked to the people who owned the dog who wanted to do it, but they were going to be out of town, she also talked to someone else about another dog. Susan said she needs to talk to the narrator who would need to approve it due to potential liability. If people don't want a dog inside maybe, we could do it outside to meet the dog.

Next Meeting to Discuss Upcoming Year Strategy Planning

Casey sent out a schedule meeting for us all to chat to set a date. We will be using Pat's list to do strategy planning list of all events. Alexa will prepare a slide deck to help guide the discussion and keep focus on topics to review. Alexa will draft a sample process timeline of what we foresee happening to establish the dog park (pursuing land, approval process through the town, materials purchasing, grant writing, etc.) Maybe will invite Willow to discuss as well to a future one.

Survey for Dog Park Opinions

We should print it out for meeting to discuss and review status. 50 responses so far really good interaction, we will begin to review. Print it in paper form so Pat has it. Maybe do a paper survey and leave it in the library until our event and pick up the material at the harnessing history event.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29pm; made by John. Seconded by Pat.

The committee unanimously agreed to adjourn.

The Next Meeting Will Take Place on Thursday, April 2nd @ 6:30pm.